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Man accused of reoccurring robbery of elderly victim

Robert Amonette charged for almost daily robbery of 86-year-old man

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced charges today against a man accused of robbing an elderly victim multiple times over the course of several months. Robert Amonette has been charged with one count Armed Robbery (Level 3 felony) and 28 counts Robbery (Level 5 felony) for the alleged incidents that occurred in October. Prosecutor Curry said additional charges are expected for additional incidents. Amonette is accused of repeatedly forcing an 86-year-old victim to provide cash and withdraw money from the victim's bank account.

Detectives with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department believe there may be additional victims and encourage anyone with information to contact Adult Protective Services at (317) 327-1403.

"Too often elderly citizens are targeted by criminals preying on their isolation. We see this in a variety of scams and, unfortunately, more dangerous crimes such as robbery," said Prosecutor Curry. "It is important that friends, family members and neighbors talk to elderly residents about their safety and to whom they are loaning, giving or paying money. Anyone is encouraged to report information of additional potential victims in this case or if they suspect other elderly community members are the victims of fraud or abuse."

"Our elders are the cornerstone of our community and are valued treasures. We are appreciative of efforts of our IMPD detectives and the Marion County Prosecutor's Office who worked long hours to solve this case and bring those to justice," said IMPD Chief Rick Hite.

"Now, we need your help in finding any additional victims that may have experienced a similar crime. Please contact IMPD."

According to the probable cause affidavit, Amonette was known to the victim. The victim reported that he would leave his home each day to walk around the neighborhood in an effort to avoid Amonette only to be located and trailed by the defendant. Amonette is accused of driving the victim to a bank for the purpose of withdrawing cash. The victim reported that Amonette would become irrational and angry, causing the victim to be in fear for his safety. In one incident, Amonette was armed with a handgun in his waistband.

An initial hearing is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 18 in Criminal Court 5.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.